

Application No: 10/070,867  
Attorney's Docket No: IT 010006

### CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

#### Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of coding a data stream-(S1,S2), the method comprising:  
channel coding-(11) respective partitions of a given part of the data stream with different  
error protection rates to obtain a coded data stream-(WS1, WS2); and  
including-(14, 20) a single length information ~~(14)~~ field field concerning respective lengths of  
the respective partitions in the coded data stream-(WS1, WS2).
  
2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length information ~~(14)~~  
fieldfield includes the lengths of the partitions before channel coding.
  
3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length information ~~(14)~~  
fieldfield includes the lengths of the partitions after channel coding.
  
4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the length information ~~(14)~~  
fieldfield is included after a resync marker-(H5) of the given part of the data stream-(S1, S2).
  
5. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data stream-(S1, S2)  
includes at least one marker-(H1... H5) out of a predetermined set of at least two mutually different

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markers (H1... H5), the marker indicating a start of a given part of the data stream, the method further comprising:

representing (13) the at least one marker (H1... H5) with a higher robustness word (WH1... WH5) having a higher robustness to channel errors than the at least one marker; and outputting (14) the data stream with the at least one marker represented with the higher-robustness word (WH1... WH5).

6. (Currently Amended) A method of decoding a coded data stream (WS1, WS2), in which coded data stream respective partitions of a given part of the coded data stream have been channel encoded with different error protection rates, the coded data stream further includes a single length information (15) field field concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream, the method comprising:

reading (40) the length information (15) field field; and channel decoding (31) the coded data stream (WS1, WS2) using the length information (15) field field to obtain a decoded data stream (S1, S2).

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, further comprising:

deleting (40, 31, 34) the length information (15) field field from the coded data stream.

8. (Currently Amended) An encoder for coding a data stream (S1, S2), the encoder comprising:

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a channel encoder-(11) for channel coding respective partitions of a given part of the data stream with different error protection rates to obtain a coded data stream-(WS1, WS2); and means-(14, 20) for including a single length information-(1f) field field concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream-(WS1, WS2).

9. (Currently Amended) A decoder for decoding a coded data stream-(WS1, WS2), in which coded data stream respective partitions of a given part of the coded data stream have been channel encoded with different error protection rates, the coded data stream further including a single length information-(1f) field field concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream, the decoder comprising:

means-(40) for reading the length information field; and means-(31) for channel decoding the coded data stream-(WS1, WS2) using the length information-(1f) field field to obtain a decoded data stream-(S1, S2).

10. (Currently Amended) A transmitter for transmitting a coded data stream-(WS1, WS2), the transmitter comprising:

an encoder for coding a data stream-(S1, S2), the encoder including a channel encoder-(11) for channel coding respective partitions of a given part of the data stream with different error protection rates to obtain a coded data stream-(WS1, WS2), and

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means (14, 20) for including a single length information ~~(1f) field~~ field concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream ~~(WS1, WS2)~~; and means (14) for transmitting the coded data stream ~~(WS1, WS2)~~.

11. (Currently Amended) A receiver for receiving a coded data stream ~~(WS1, WS2)~~, the receiver comprising:

means (30) for receiving the coded data stream; and a decoder for decoding a coded data stream ~~(WS1, WS2)~~, in which coded data stream respective partitions of a given part of the coded data stream have been channel encoded with different error protection rates, the coded data stream further including a single length ~~field~~ information field concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream, the decoder including

means (40) for reading the length information ~~field~~ field, and means (31) for channel decoding the coded data stream ~~(WS1, WS2)~~ using the length information ~~(1f) field~~ field to obtain a decoded data stream ~~(S1, S2)~~.

12. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented coded data stream ~~(WS1, WS2)~~ in which respective partitions of a given part of the coded data stream have been channel encoded with different error protection rates, the coded data stream further comprising a single length information ~~(1f) field~~ field concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream.

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13. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented storage medium-(15) on which a coded data stream-(WS1, WS2) has been stored, the coded data stream having respective partitions of a given part of the coded data stream have been channel encoded with different error protection rates, the coded data stream further comprising a single length information-(1f) field field concerning respective lengths of the respective partitions in the coded data stream.